

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please insert the following text in the specification at page 5, between lines 5 and 6 as follows:

-- Figure 4a shows the gripping means according to Figure 4 in a situation under load. --

Please insert the following text in the specification at page 5, between lines 7 and 8 as follows:

-- Figure 5a shows the gripping means according to Figure 5 in a situation under load. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 17 as follows:

-- Figure 6 shows a signal line 19, for example, in the form of a glass fibre cable 19, which is provided with a protective sleeve 20. Sleeve 20 is provided on the outside with gripping elements 1, 3 in the form of rigid components as already shown in Figures 1 and 2. The signal line 21 shown in Figure 7 is provided with a sleeve 22 into which rigid components 23 are integrated in the form of thickened sleeve parts. Although this variant is also conceivable, it is recommended that the thickened sleeve parts are embodied separately from the sleeve (and optionally assembled with the sleeve later); it is then, after all, more a case of an edge gripping the signal line. Depending on the circumstances, however, the variant of the signal line as shown in Figure 7 can also be envisaged, for instance if sleeve 22 takes a relatively thin form at the non-thickened positions. For proper operation, ~~of the~~ ~~it is desirable that they are to~~ be supported in resilient manner. This is ~~for instance~~ possible by placing signal lines 19, 21 on a ~~resilient material layer~~ or by arranging a sleeve 20, 23 manufactured from a resilient material around the illustrated signal lines 19, 21. --